

Westminster Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

Ron Coopman, *Chief of Police*

8200 Westminster Blvd.
Westminster, CA 92683
(714) 898-3315

Corporal Cameron Knauerhaze, PIO
Office: (714) 548-3791
Media Hotline: (714) 548-3213



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For Immediate Release

WPD CASE: 11-02793

Pusuit Ends Safely/Police K-9 Deployed

Arrestee: Scott Balbirnie, 39 years old, resident of Long Beach, Ca.

Charges: VC 23152(a)-DUI
VC 2800.1-Evading Arrest
PC 600(a)-Assault on a Police Dog
HS 11377(a)- Poss. of a Controlled Substance
HS 11550-Under the Influence of Controlled Substance
HS 11364-Poss. of Drug Paraphernalia

Location: Westminster Blvd. and Seal Beach Blvd, Seal Beach (pursuit termination point)

Westminster, CA: This morning, just after 3:00 AM, the Westminster Police Department received the report of a suspicious vehicle that had been following the reporting party for several miles. Officers responded and quickly located the vehicle in the area of Westminster Blvd. and Beach Blvd.

The officers attempted a vehicle stop; however, the driver failed to yield and led officers on a short pursuit through Westminster. As the pursuit ensued, the suspect continued to violate multiple vehicle codes including unsafe speed and failing to stop a stop sign.

The suspect yielded in the area of Westminster and Seal Beach Blvd, however, the driver remained in the vehicle and was uncooperative with the officer's commands to exit. After numerous requests for compliance with no response, the driver's side window was breached by a less lethal bean bag projectile allowing access to the interior of the vehicle. Additional requests for the suspect to exit the vehicle were made, but the suspect still did not comply. A police K-9 was deployed in an attempt to safely apprehend the suspect. Despite being bit, the suspect continued to resist by punching the police dog. A Taser was deployed and the suspect was taken into custody. The suspect was treated at a local hospital.

The suspect was identified as 39-year old Scott Balbirnie of Long Beach, Ca. He was arrested for the listed charges and later booked at the Orange County Jail.

Contact:

PIO, Corporal Cameron Knauerhaze Office: (714) 548-3791, Media Line: (714) 548-3213

<http://www.westminster-ca.gov/depts/police/>